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I hereby certify that this paper (Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115) (along with any documents referred to as attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademarks (Fax No. 571-273-8300) on October 19, 2006.

10-19-06

Date Ronald C. Fedus Reg, No. 32,567

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of the claims below will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in this application.

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Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-286 (Canceled).

287. (Previously Presented) A process for detecting the presence or quantity of enzymatic activity of interest in a sample, said process comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing:
 - (i) said sample suspected of containing enzymatic activity;
 - (ii) a chemiluminescent reagent having the structure:

$$Z$$
 R_1
 R_2

wherein Q comprises a cycloalkyl or polycycloalkyl group attached covalently to the 4-membered ring portion of said dioxetane above directly or indirectly through a linkage group; wherein Z comprises hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkaryl, heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or cycloheteroalkyl; and wherein R_1 and R_2 comprise chemical moleties attached to different sites of a cyclic ring attached to said dioxetane, and wherein R_1 is enzymatically converted into R_1^* which comprises a chemical reactive group G_1 , and wherein R_2 is attached to said cyclic ring through an oxygen atom and comprises a chemical reactive group G_2 which reacts with said G_1 to convert said dioxetane to an unstable light-emitting dioxetane form.

Enz-61(D11)

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- (ii) reagents and buffers for carrying out chemiluminescent reactions;
 - (b) forming a mixture of:
 - (1) (i), (ii) and (iii); or
 - (2) (ii) and (iii) and contacting said mixture of (ii) and (iii) with (i);
- (c) enzymatically converting the chemiluminescent reagent of (a)(ii) into an unstable light-emitting dioxetane form; and
- (d) measuring the quantity of light generated by said enzymatic conversion in step (c).
- 288. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 287, wherein in said providing step (a) Ω in said chemiluminescent reagent (ii) comprises an adamantyl group.
- 289. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 287, wherein in said providing step (a) R_2 in said chemiluminescent reagent (ii) comprises a substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic group or an unsubstituted aromatic group.
- 290. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 289, wherein said substituted aliphatic group comprises halogen, nitrates, or sulfonates or nitrites.
- 291. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 287, wherein said enzymatic converting step (c) is carried out by a substrate comprising amides, esters, phosphates, carboxylic acids, fatty-acids, glucose, xylose, fucose, or amino acids, or esters of phosphates, carboxylic acids or fatty acids.

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- 292. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 287, wherein said enzymatic activity of interest comprises an amidase, an esterase, an acetylcholinesterase, and acetylcholinesterase, and acetylcholinesterase, and acetylcholinesterase, acetylcho
- 293. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 287, further comprising the step of forming an intermediate five- or six-membered ring comprising a linkage between said G_1 and G_2 in said chemiluminescent reagent (ii).
- 294. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 287, wherein any of said steps (a) through (d) are carried out in liquid phase or mixed phase.
- 295. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 287, wherein said enzymatic activity of interest is dependent upon the presence or quantity of another compound.
- 296. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 295, wherein said another compound comprises an RNA or DNA probe.

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297. (Currently Amended) A process for detecting the presence or quantity of enzymatic activity of interest in a sample, said process comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing:
 - (i) said sample suspected of containing enzymatic activity;
 - (ii) a chemiluminescent reagent having the structure:

wherein Q comprises a cycloalkyl or polycycloalkyl group attached covalently to the 4-membered ring portion of said dioxetane above directly or indirectly through a linkage group; wherein Z comprises hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkaryl,

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heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or cycloheteroalkyl; and wherein R comprises a chemical linker having a reactive site attached to the aromatic ring in said structure; and wherein R' comprises a substrate for an non-cleaving enzymatic process, wherein the product of said enzymatic process leads to further chemical rearrangements that generate an unstable light emitting dioxetane form.

- (ii) reagents and buffers for carrying out chemiluminescent reactions;
 - (b) forming a mixture of:
 - (1) (i), (ii) and (iii); or
 - (2) (ii) and (iii) and contacting said mixture of (ii) and (iii) with (i);
- (c) enzymatically converting the chemiluminescent reagent of (a)(ii) into an unstable light-emitting dioxetane form; and
- (d) measuring the quantity of light generated by said enzymatic conversion in step (c).
- 298. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 297, wherein in said providing step (a) Q in said chemiluminescent reagent (ii) comprises an adamantyl group.
- 299. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 297, wherein in said providing step (a) R in the chemiluminescent reagent (ii) comprises a substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic group or an unsubstituted aromatic group.
- 300. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 299, wherein said substituted aliphatic group comprises halogen, nitrate, or sulfonate or nitrite.

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- 301. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 297, wherein said providing step (a) R in the chemiluminescent reagent (ii) comprises a reactive site comprising an oxygen, a nitrogen or a sulfur atom.
- 302. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 297, wherein said step of enzymatically converting (c) is carried out by an enzyme comprising an oxidase or reductase.
- 303. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 297, wherein any of said steps (a) through (d) are carried out in liquid phase or mixed phase.
- 304. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 297, wherein said enzymatic activity of interest is dependent upon the presence or quantity of another compound.
- 305. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 304, wherein said another compound comprises an RNA or DNA probe.
- 306. (New) A process for detecting the presence or quantity of enzymatic activity of interest in a sample, said enzymatic activity being dependent upon the presence or quantity of another compound, said process comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing:
 - said sample suspected of containing enzymatic activity that is dependent upon the presence or quantity of said another compound;
 - (ii) a chemiluminescent reagent having the structure:

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wherein Q comprises a cycloalkyl or polycycloalkyl group attached covalently to the 4-membered ring portion of said dioxetane above directly or indirectly through a linkage group; wherein Z comprises hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkaryl, heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or cycloheteroalkyl; and wherein R₁ and R₂ comprise chemical moieties attached to different sites of a cyclic ring attached to said dioxetane, and wherein R₁ is enzymatically converted into R₁* which comprises a chemical reactive group G₁, and wherein R₂ is attached to said cyclic ring through an oxygen atom and comprises a chemical reactive group G₂ which reacts with said G₁ to convert said dioxetane to an unstable light-emitting dioxetane form.

- (ii) reagents and buffers for carrying out chemiluminescent reactions;
 - (b) forming a mixture of:
 - (1) (i), (ii) and (iii); or
 - (2) (ii) and (iii) and contacting said mixture of (ii) and (iii) with (i);
- (c) enzymatically converting the chemiluminescent reagent of (a)(ii) into an unstable light-emitting dioxetane form; and
- (d) measuring the quantity of light generated by said enzymatic conversion in step (c).

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307. (New) A process for detecting the presence or quantity of enzymatic activity of interest in a sample, said enzymatic activity being dependent upon the presence or quantity of an RNA or DNA probe, said process comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing:
 - said sample suspected of containing enzymatic activity that is dependent upon the presence or quantity of said RNA or DNA probe;
 - (ii) a chemiluminescent reagent having the structure:

$$Z$$
 R_1
 R_2

wherein Q comprises a cycloalkyl or polycycloalkyl group attached covalently to the 4-membered ring portion of said dioxetane above directly or indirectly through a linkage group; wherein Z comprises hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkaryl, heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or cycloheteroalkyl; and wherein R_1 and R_2 comprise chemical moietles attached to different sites of a cyclic ring attached to said dioxetane, and wherein R_1 is enzymatically converted into R_1^* which comprises a chemical reactive group G_1 , and wherein R_2 is attached to said cyclic ring through an oxygen atom and comprises a chemical reactive group G_2 which reacts with said G_1 to convert said dioxetane to an unstable light-emitting dioxetane form.

(ii) reagents and buffers for carrying out chemiluminescent reactions;

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- (b) forming a mixture of:
 - (1) (i), (ii) and (iii); or
 - (2) (ii) and (iii) and contacting said mixture of (ii) and (iii) with (i);
- (c) enzymatically converting the chemiluminescent reagent of (a)(ii) into an unstable light-emitting dioxetane form; and
- (d) measuring the quantity of light generated by said enzymatic conversion in step (c).

* * * * * * *